



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 09/560,288 Confirmation No.: 3083  
Applicant(s): Hanley, Jr.  
Filed: 04/27/2000  
Art Unit: 1647  
Examiner: Robert Clinton Hayes  
Title: METHOD FOR PRODUCING HUMAN INTERVERTEBRAL DISC CELLS

Docket No.: 038151/195944  
Customer No.: 00826

**RECEIVED**

**FEB 24 2004**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated October 16, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.